



SEP - 7 2004

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Docket No.: SON-1718

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yasukiyasu Sugano et al.

Application No.: 09/478,812

Filed: January 7, 2000

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THIN FILM

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND LASER

IRRADIATION APPARATUS

Art Unit: 2815

Examiner: E. Lee

SEP 02 2004

TECH CENTER 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.